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12. — *Influence of the Ministry at Large in the City of Boston.*
By A SPECTATOR. Boston; James Munroe & Co.
12mo. pp. 72.

THIS pamphlet is a collection of papers, which were printed some time ago in the *Christian Register*. It is full of details of the deepest interest, set forth in a style of singular terseness and descriptive strength. The sketches, drawn from real life, and real life in its humblest form, rival in pathos and power the pictures of romance. The author of this little book has evidently been, not merely an eyewitness, but an actor in the scenes he describes. His manner of telling the touching stories he has collected, of want and woe, of vice reformed, and unbelief changed to faith, is too vivid and feeling to have been acquired by art and study. We have been constantly reminded, while reading these papers, of the celebrated "*Passages from the Diary of a Physician*," except that the latter are longer, more elaborate, and more finished. The former are the more touching and vivid. "*The short and simple annals of the poor*" are here forcibly related, and hard must be the heart which is not moved to pity, by the sad narration.

The author of these papers goes into a thorough discussion of the effects of the ministry at large, in all its bearings. It appears to us that his arguments are perfectly conclusive, as to the beneficial agency of such a ministry, and that they must awaken a powerful sympathy with the efforts of those whose talents are devoted to so noble a career of duty. We are happy to learn that New York has followed the example of Boston. A single society, influenced by the stirring eloquence of the Rev. Mr. Dewey, has raised an ample sum for the support of a minister at large; and we understand that one of the most distinguished young men in the profession is at present employed in that responsible office.

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13. — *An Address delivered before the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, at the Celebration of their Tenth Triennial Festival, October 6, 1836.* By JAMES LLOYD HOMER. Boston; Homer & Palmer. 8vo. pp. 40.

WITHOUT making any pretensions to fine writing, Mr. Homer has given us a very excellent discourse. His aim is to impart instruction and inspire just sentiments. He speaks as a practical man to practical men; as a patriot to his countrymen; and as a Bostonian, to the mechanics of the good town. In the